

we have so much abundance, so much potential, and so much we were doing just before this administration came into place. We are sitting on the largest untapped oil reserve in the world—amazingly enough—here in the United States.

If we had been utilizing this properly, instead of launching an assault on domestic energy production, our Union would be in a much better state. As we know, on the first day in office, President Biden shut down the Keystone Pipeline, on and off, on and off over the years, suspended pending oil and gas leases, halted domestic energy production, which stopped exports on liquefied natural gas to our allies overseas.

We have seen how important that is when Europe has become so reliant on Russian natural gas. Poland recently just cut off supply buying from Russia so they would not be so dependent, as well as the Germans and other Eastern European countries.

Now, what we have seen since all this lack of exploration and shortness of supply is the prices have skyrocketed on everybody. It is really hurting rural America, especially with the need for farming crops, fertilizer, all the different aspects that go into food production, and that in return causes food shortages.

We are really putting ourselves in a bad, bad position by having a lack of energy policy or one that is really an anti-energy policy. We have seen the national average for a gallon of gas up to \$4.48. In California, it is getting closer to \$6 on average.

What bothers me is that over time do people get lulled into this as being normal? No, folks, this is not normal, and it is not necessary. It doesn't need to be this way because, as I mentioned, we have so much untapped energy in this country. The miracle of hydraulic fracturing has made natural gas so abundant that we have been able to be a strong exporter of it.

I remember not too many years ago we were figuring out, are we going to have to find a way to have our gas imported and upgrade our ports to bring it in? No. Hydraulic fracturing has made possible cheap natural gas to export to our allies, such as in Western Europe. We need to be doing much, much more of that so we don't have our friends, the Germans, and Poland, and others, that are reliant upon energy coming from Russia.

With the regulatory and tax policies that have discouraged gas production, California only produces, for example, a fraction of what it is capable of when it was once one of the leading oil and gas-producing States.

What would our Nation look like if we were producing to our full potential? It would probably look a lot like what we were 15–16 months ago when we had abundance in everything; energy, and food wasn't emptying off the shelves. We would be in a much better space.

Indeed, these short-sighted policies are harming regular, everyday Ameri-

cans. Food production, I can't emphasize enough, when we are running short on the shelves already—and this is before the 2022 crop has even been completely planted or come in—in my home State of California, probably half of agriculture is going to be shut down: half of agriculture. Why? Water policy. With that lack of water policy, all the water rushing out to the ocean in order to try to save an already missing fish or something called Delta salinity, we are not going to plant half of our agriculture in our home State. That has effects on American food: costs, availability, and quality.

Are we just going to import it all? No, it is not going to work that way. It all strings together. It is all interrelated. With that water policy, it also negatively affects energy because we are not going to make hydroelectric power like we can.

This administration is hell-bent on getting rid of some of our dams in California and others around the West that make hydroelectric power. Hydroelectric power is CO₂-free, no carbon dioxide. Our last nuclear power plant in California, they want to shut that down; CO₂-free.

The energy policy on all different aspects is collapsing. Indeed, 20 percent of the Nation's power is from nuclear source, and about 25 percent of that power is threatened, that it will be shut down within the next 10 or 15 years if things aren't done to make up for that. We need an energy policy that makes sense.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CLEAVER) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Omnipotent God, ruler of the universe and source of all life, help us to love all that You are and all that You have created. May we show respect to both people and planet. In all that we see, may we regard everything as a precious gift from You to be revered and appreciated.

At the same time, as we enjoy the amazing opportunities You have afforded us, the bounty of riches You have bestowed on us, the honor and privilege to have dominion over the Earth and all her resources, may our

regard for the world never eclipse our love for You.

We pray, instead, that You continue to reveal Yourself in the beauty of this Earth. May we have the faith to love You first, to look around at the remarkable creation that surrounds us and see Your handiwork in all that we see.

Likewise, we ask Your guidance that in the enjoyment of these countless gifts You have given us, that we worship the love that has provided them and not become so preoccupied with the gifts themselves that we cannot see the affection to be found in the hands that offer them.

In all that surrounds us, may we know the love of the giver, and may our lives ever be lived in worship of You.

By the power of Your name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MALINOWSKI led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

PAIN AT THE PUMP

(Ms. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, rising prices are straining families' budgets and robbing them of the full benefits of our strong economic recovery.

Last year, we experienced the fastest rate of economic growth in four decades and the single greatest year of job creation ever.

Thanks to this robust growth, workers are securing better jobs with higher pay. Wages have risen more than 4 percent since President Biden took office.

Yet, even as inflation has slowed, rising prices are eating into families' paychecks. To help cut costs for families, the House recently passed legislation to cap the price of insulin at \$35. This week, the House will consider new legislation to address pain at the pump.

The Consumer Fuel Price Gouging Prevention Act would establish the first-ever Federal law against price gouging by oil and gas companies.

Cutting costs and preventing profiteering, this is how we get our prices under control and put money back in people's pockets.